

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's reconsideration of the present application as amended.

Claims 1, 3-6, 9-16, and 18-37 are pending in the present application.

Claims 1, 3-5, and 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,867,727 ("Hattori") in view of U.S. Patent Publication 2002/0152263 ("Goldrian") and U.S. Patent No. 5,557,750 ("Moore").

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hattori, Goldrian, and Moore, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,304,936 ("Sherlock").

Claims 11-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sherlock in view of Moore and U.S. Patent No. 6,891,397 ("Brebner").

Claims 16, 18, 20-21, 23-24, 26-35, and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hattori in view of Moore.

Claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hattori in view of Moore and further in view of Goldrian.

Claims 19, 25, and 36 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in correct and independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Figure 4 has been amended. A replacement sheet for Figure 4 is included after the last page of this amendment.

Supported for the amendment to Figure 4 is found on page 12 of the specification. Applicant submits that no new matter has been added.

The specification has been amended at pages 12 and 13 to correct typographical errors.

Support for the amendment to the specification is found on pages 12. Applicant submits that no new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 3-6, 9-15, 19, 25, 28-32, and 36 have been canceled.

Claims 16, 23, and 33 have been amended.

Claims 38-51 have been added.

Support for amended claims 16, 23, and 33, and for new claims 38-51 are found on pages 2-17 of the specification, pages 1-7 of the figures, and claims 1-22 as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

Claims 19, 25, and 36 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in correct and independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim.

Claim 16 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 19.

Claim 23 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 25.

Claim 33 has been amended to include the limitation of claim 36.

New claims 38 and 47 include the limitations of claim 16 and claim 19.

Given that claims 18, and 20-22 depend directly or indirectly from claim 16, claims 24, and 26-27 depend directly or indirectly from claim 23, claims 34-35, and 37 depend directly or indirectly from claim 33, claims 39-46 depend directly or indirectly from claim 38, and claims 48-51 depend directly or indirectly from claim 47, it is likewise submitted that claims 16, 18, 20-24, 26-27, 33-35, 37-51 are also patentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Hattori, Goldrian, Moore, Sherlock, and Brebner.

In view of the amendments set forth herein, it is respectfully submitted that the applicable rejections and have been overcome. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 16, 18, 20-24, 26-27, 33-35, 37-51 should be found to be in condition for allowance.

If any additional fee is required, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-1624.

Respectfully submitted,

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